

# Flight Jacket

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Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

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## Veterans Day – honoring those who gave



Marines from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego recreate the Iwo Jima flag raising on Mount Suribachi. The re-creation was done aboard a float for the 14th Annual Veterans Day Parade in San Diego, Nov. 10. Photo by Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

November 11 Americans reflected on, in celebrations, parades and remembrance ceremonies, the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces – many who died protecting the land on which we live, in tribute to Veterans Day.

In San Diego, dozens of observances were held throughout the community. Perhaps one of the largest was the 14th Annual Veterans Day Parade in downtown San Diego. Service members old and new walked the streets for thousands of San Diego area residents to respect and admire.

According to Jaime Renolds, 27, she never really took the time to understand what Veterans Day was all about, nor did she particularly care to know.

“Veterans Day was just a day off from work,” said Renolds. “Since the tragedy in New York and D.C., I have become much more aware of what we have here in this country. It is the men and women of our military, who fight and die – they are the reason we can live free. Every time our soldiers are sent to fight, that is just what they are doing, protecting our freedom.”

Veterans Day, originally dubbed Armistice Day, began Nov. 11, 1918, as a commemoration of the ending of World War I. Following World War II, it was transformed into a day to pay tribute to all service mem-

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## Fire Safety a must during holiday season

By Cpl. Mark P. Ledesma

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Fire safety is an issue everyone may overlook, but could face during the coming holidays.

The holidays are a time for celebration and colder temperatures. That means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining and risk of fire due to heating equipment.

During 1998, there were 300 Christmas-tree fires in the United States, resulting in 11 injuries and \$8 million in direct-property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association. The leading cause of Christmas-tree fires and property damage was short circuit or ground fault. Cords and plugs were the leading types of equipment involved in the ignition of Christmas trees.

“The problem with Christmas trees is that people tend to buy them early,” said Tina R. Leary, Assistant Chief of Prevention, Miramar Fire Prevention Bureau. “By the time Christmas

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## Marine units combine air, ground forces during mighty final assault series

By Sgt. Carolyn S. Sittig

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Several 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing assets participated in the Final Exercise during a Combined Arms Exercise at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Nov. 12-14.

Ten units from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar took part in CAX 02/02: Marine Aircraft Group 16, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadrons 466 and 361, and Marine Air Control Group 38. All units with the exception of HMH-361 were players for the FINEX. Marine Aircraft Group 39 units from Camp Pendleton and Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 from the Combat Center were also participating during the CAX.

The final exercise is the culminating event for CAX. It takes the form of a three-day war with each day simulating different positions, said Maj. Jan M. January, MAG-16 future operations officer. The first day, air and ground units coordinate offensive maneuvers and live-fire exercises. Day two consists of defensive maneuvers and more live fire. The last day revolves around the final destruction of the enemy and troop extractions.

Final Exercise is the integration of many forms of train-

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A CH-53E Super Stallion from HMH-466 conducts a terrain flight near the mountains at MCAGCC Twentynine Palms during the Final Exercise at CAX Nov. 12. Photo by Sgt. Carolyn S. Sittig

# PO boxes underway for barracks dwellers

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

In a strong effort to ease congestion in the Military Post Office here and eliminate mailroom errors, post office boxes are being installed in what used to be the main counter area of the MPO.

These PO boxes are being established for service members residing in the Bachelor Officer Quarters and the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters.

One of the major benefits of the PO boxes is that they will reduce the number of people who handle an individual's mail.

"With the current system," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Debra Woods, postal officer, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area. "We get the mail from the United States Postal Service, sort the mail here, the mail then goes to the mail clerks. The mail clerks sort the mail, and then the mail goes to the mail orderlies were the orderlies sort the mail and then distribute it to the individuals. With the new system, the mail will come in from U.S. Postal Service, we'll sort it here into the PO boxes, where the mail goes directly to the individual."

The scheduled-completion date for construction on the PO boxes is mid-December.

According to Woods, the MPO is currently

in the process of gathering the names of all service members who reside in the barracks.

"When we get that list (of names), we have to make sure that it is legitimate," said Woods. "Just because the name shows up on the list doesn't mean that the individual actually lives in the barracks. Once the list is narrowed down, we'll start assigning box numbers."

The PO boxes themselves will be categorized by squadrons and then by service members' name. Upon the opening of the new installment to the MPO, Marines and Sailors will have 24-hour access to their PO boxes.

In order to ease congestion and boost morale, the Marine Corps is sparing no expense on this \$93,000 project.

Each person assigned to a box will be given a number to open the combination lock, which secures his or her mail.

"It is easier to use combination locks than it is to try to keep up with approximately 5,800 keys," said Woods.

Having a personal PO box should prove to be a welcomed change for service members aboard Miramar.

"It is definitely a quality-of-life issue, be-

See **Box**, page 10



Jon Klimek, carpenter, Code 555 Housing, uses a high-powered nail gun to nail the base of what will be post office boxes for barracks dwellers here at Miramar. Photo by Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

# Commissary offers family member scholarships

By Sgt. W.A. Napper Jr.

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Sons and daughters of Marines, Sailors and other service members here can apply for the Miramar Commissary's second annual Scholarships for Military Children program.

High school seniors and college students alike can apply for the scholarship if they meet the requirements and beat the Feb. 5 deadline.

According to Robert Nagle, Miramar Commissary store director, children of active-duty, reserve, guard or retired-military personnel can apply if they hold a valid identification card.

Eligibility would be verified by using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

"The scholarship money is only good for one year, but the winner can re-apply the following year even if they're going to be a senior in college next year," said Nagle. "It's

imperative, though, that their parents make sure they're in the DEERS system. If not, they won't be eligible for the scholarship."

Nagle said scholarships would be awarded at all commissaries throughout the Department of Defense. They will award at least one winner with no less than \$1,500. Students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average and write an essay.

"Last year the essay was about what the student did to enrich the community," he

said. "This year it's about what it means to them to be a military child."

Nagle also said the winner, or winners, would be chosen from an independent agency to ensure fairness to all applicants. Commissary officials will announce the winner no later than May 1.

For further requirements about the scholarship program, visit the Commissary Web site at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and click on the "what's new" link. The application can be downloaded from the site.

# Station recycling celebrates America Recycles Day



Lance Cpl. Xavier Roman, recycling yard noncommissioned officer, recycling center, empties a bag of white paper into a bin to be taken to a paper recycling plant in San Diego. The recycling center collects and sorts various types of paper from collection points on Station, as well as paper dropped off at the center, as part of the Station's effort to reduce waste going to landfills. Photo by Cpl. C.A. Eriksen

By Cpl. C.A. Eriksen

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

The Station's recycling center celebrated its first America Recycles Day Thursday, with plans to make it an annual event, according to Navy Chief Petty Officer June Tiu, recycling center, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

"The goal is to promote awareness of the Station's recycling program and to get feedback on how effective it is," said Lance Cpl. Phil Sibayan, recycling center worker, H&HS.

They also had an information about the program and education booth as part of the celebration. There was also a survey to help assess Station recycling efforts, prize drawings and a kid's pack for kids, as well as a coloring contest.

The recycling center is responsible for the collection and sorting of all recyclable materials on Station. Its primary mission is to reduce the amount of material going off Station to landfills, keeping with its motto, "leave less behind for the future ... reduce, reuse, recycle," according to Tiu. Proceeds from the sale of recyclable materials support the recycling center's programs and Marine Corps Community Services programs.

There are several collection points on Station for recyclable materials. For a list of recyclable materials or more information on the Station's recycling program, contact the recycling center at 577-6366.

# Past, present military women honored in ceremony

By Cpl. C.A. Eriksen

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Women in the military were honored during a luncheon at the Officers' club Nov. 3. The luncheon was a chance for active-duty women in the military and retirees to get together and share their experiences, according to retired Army Maj. Margaret Hunter.

Each year a different local service group sponsors the luncheon. This was the first for the Women's Army Corps, San Diego chapter, according to Mary A. Harrington, president.

The proceeds from the luncheon will benefit the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation. The foundation helps to maintain the Women's Memorial at the Arlington National Cemetery, according to Harrington.

The first of these luncheons was held 12 years ago as a way for active duty, reserves and retirees to come together and reflect upon past achievements, current issues and

envision the future of women in the service. The luncheon has been held at Miramar for the last four years, according to Hunter.

"Most of our members are retirees from the World War II and Korean wars, but we strongly encourage active duty and reservist to join us," said Harrington.

Guest speaker, Susan Farrell, is with the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. Farrell talked to the audience about the various roles women have had in the military in the past and present, and the roles women could expect to see in the future. She also talked about her work with DACOWITS and the efforts to promote equality in all aspects of military life for women.

Most of the attendees were from local chapters of various national organizations, the most notable being the United Veterans Association, according to Harrington.

"This year's luncheon was a success and we look forward to next year's," said Harrington.



**Barbara Beeby and Marge Houck, both retired from the United States Navy Nurse Corps, talk about the changes women in the military have seen over the years since they first joined. Both were attending a recent luncheon honoring women in the military held at the Miramar Officers' Club. Photo by Cpl. C.A. Eriksen**

## Exceptional Family Member Program meeting raises awareness

By Sgt. Mike Camacho

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Marine Corps Community Services' Exceptional Family Member Program held a meeting for the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Nov. 7.

"The committee meetings are designed to empower the families with information," said Gunnery Sgt. Larry D. Thomas, personal

services division staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "The turnout wasn't what I expected, and I really feel that this information is too important to miss."

During previous meetings, information topics have ranged from humanitarian assignment policies and the RE3C reenlistment code, to special education program providers. Members also receive recognition for bringing new participants to the meetings.

"The committee is constantly striving to get the word out," said Thomas. "I would really like to see a network of families and services who are encouraged to bring others and make this committee as strong as I know it could be."

The meeting featured a presentation about the Special Care Center for children. Patsy Hartman, Special Care Center clinical director, presented information on the cen-

ter and answered questions.

"Special Care is honored to serve the EFMP families by providing nursing care, therapies, assisting technology, educational services and medical equipment to those who qualify," said Hartman.

According to Gaye Hawkins, marriage and family therapist, the committee meetings

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Ad Space

# Rates change for deployed per diem

By Cpl. C.A. Eriksen

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

The rates for officer and enlisted deployed per diem have changed as announced in Marine Administrative Message 554/01, with the new policy taking effect June 1, 2002.

This policy affects Marines assigned to aviation or ground units that deploy to either Okinawa or Iwakuni, Japan, as part of the Unit Deployment Program. This policy does not apply to Marines deployed with a Marine Expeditionary Unit, according to MarAdmin 554/01.

"The change only applies to land-based UDP units deployed to Iwakuni or Okinawa," said CWO-2 Bradley J. Acuff, deployment officer-in-charge, Marine Aircraft Group 11. "It does not apply to units assigned to carrier air wings when they deploy to places like Fallon for training."

Enlisted Marines already deployed will begin receiving per diem under the new rate immediately. Officers already deployed will be grandfathered and continue to be paid per diem at the current rate until they return from their deployments. Officers who deploy on or after June 1, 2002, will receive per diem under the new rate, according to MarAdmin 554/01.

"A system utility will be ran prior to implementation of the new rate to ensure



**A CH-53 Super Stallion with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Special Operations Capable, delivers Marines to humanitarian assistance and community relations projects in Dili, East Timor. Units who now deploy to Japan will face changes in the per diem issued. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kenji Szczepanski**

those with a current higher rate will remain as such," said Acuff. "A system change to the new rate will be made by Headquarters Marine Corps prior to June 2002," said Acuff.

Per diem for enlisted Marines will increase by an average of approximately \$200 per month. Officer UDP per diem will de-

crease by about \$500 per month, according to MarAdmin 554/01.

"The approximate daily rate of \$9.60 is the same for both officer and enlisted," said Acuff.

For additional information refer to MarAdmin 554/01 or contact your unit administration office.

## Drug abuse – building a future of shame, regrets

By Cpl. C.A. Eriksen

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Young Marines who feel the need to use illegal drugs while on active duty have a future of consequences to look forward to that some may never have thought about. It is more than just the process of military justice they go through, it is also the tangible and intangible consequences they have to face, according to Lt. Col. Robert M. Miller, military justice officer, Staff Judge Advocate office.

The Marine Corps has a zero tolerance policy on drugs – period. Anyone identified for possession, use or distribution is subject

to mandatory administrative separation, according to Miller.

"If you are charged with a drug offense, you will be sent to a court martial," said Miller. "This is not a slap on the wrist offense."

The maximum punishment for Marines convicted in special court martial for drug use or possession is six months confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds base pay for six months, reduction to E-1, and a bad conduct discharge. The average sentence handed out by court martial is usually 60-90 days confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds base pay for three months, reduction to E-1, and a bad conduct discharge, but it can be more if taken

to a general court martial, according to Miller.

The maximum punishment for Marines convicted in a general court martial for drug distribution is 15 years confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, reduction to E-1, and a dishonorable discharge for each charge. The average sentence handed out in a general court martial for distribution is usually three years confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, reduction to E-1, and a dishonorable discharge for each charge, according to Miller.

"It's not the loss of the tangibles, such as rank and pay, but rather the intangibles, such as shame in the eyes of family and friends, that make Marines who go through this ordeal say they would never do drugs again if they could wipe it all clean," said Miller.

Marines who disgrace the Corps by using illegal drugs can look forward to facing an unforeseen obstacle – their future of shame and regrets. Most Marines are not thinking about the effects on their families and regret that later, according to Miller.

"The single biggest impact for Marines is dealing with family and friends over how they were separated – very hard to face them and tell them why they got separated," said Miller. "Drug use means beginning to live a life of lies."

Even with close family and friends, it can still be hard for Marines convicted of a drug offense to live with the pride they had before, according to Miller.

"It's very emotional for the Marine and their family when the parents come and testify on their behalf," said Miller. "They cannot even look them in the eyes and some even break down and cry."

There is also an impact on the command that the Marine belongs to, according to

## Mir Remarks

**How do you plan to fight the battle of the bulge at the dinner table this Thanksgiving?**



**"A lot of PT afterwards."**

Gunnery Sgt. Raymond C. Smith  
MWCS-48 communication electrical  
maintenance technician



**"Best way to fight the battle is heavy on the turkey, light on the cakes and heavy on the PT the next day."**

CWO-3 Ben A. Cacioppo  
MWSS-373  
Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician



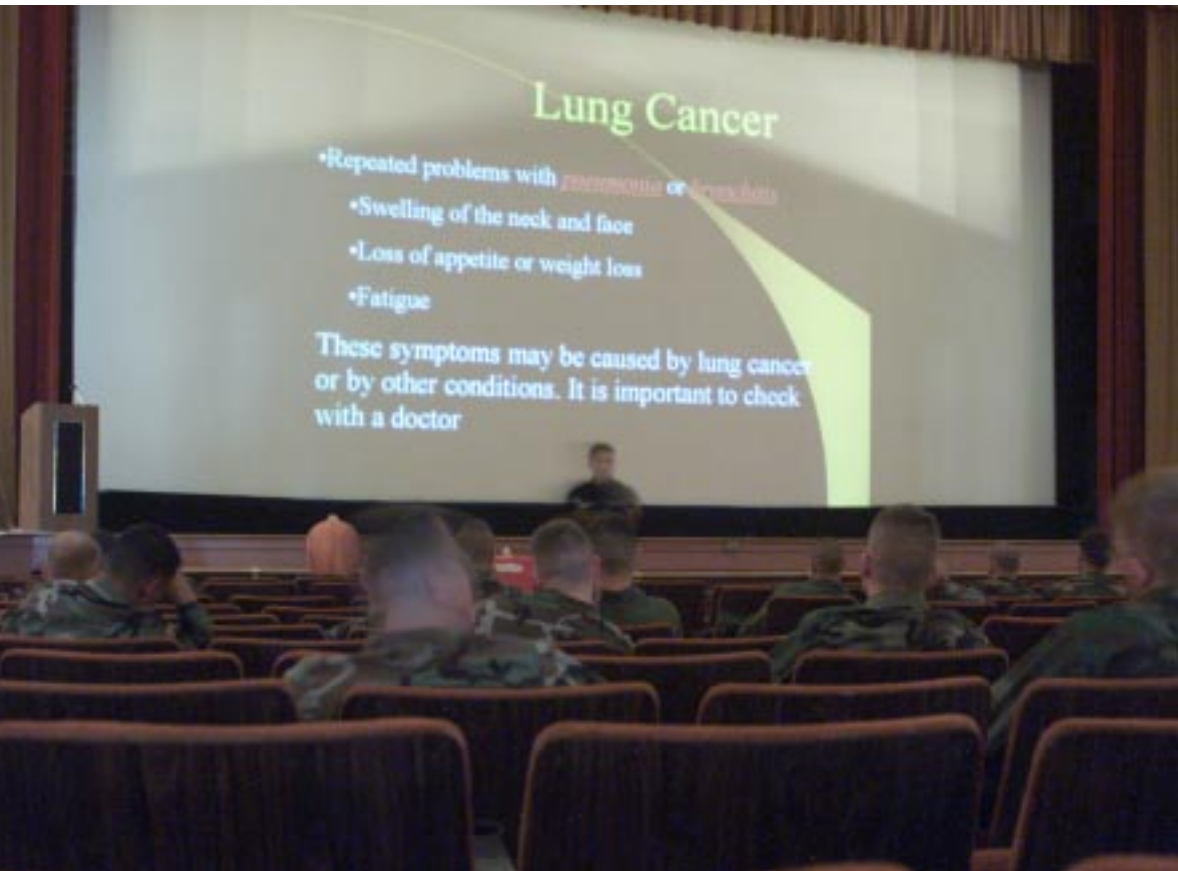
**"A lot of walking and reflecting because my husband is deployed this Thanksgiving."**

Lindsey  
family member of  
HMH-361 Marine



## Hook it up

Marines from 1st Battalion, 11th Marines wait until a CH-53E Super Stallion lowers its hoist close enough for them to attach it to the water bull. This external lift conducted by Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466 is only one of several types of training done during the FINEX at CAX in MCAGCC Twentynine Palms. Photo by Sgt. Carolyn S. Sittig



Petty Officer 2nd Class Arturo Alvarado Jr., Health Promotions coordinator, speaks to an audience of service members on the dangers of using tobacco. The brief also educated service members about several methods service members can be used to quit tobacco use. Photo by Sgt. Mike Camacho

By Sgt. Mike Camacho

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Miramar’s Marine Corps Community Services recently held a smoking cessation brief at the Station Theater designed to educate and impel the dangers of smoking into the Marines who attended.

“Just like training for war, it’s important to educate yourself as much as you can about something that can kill you – so why wouldn’t you do the same for smoking?” asked Lynn Sanchez, MCCS health promotions director.

The brief included topics on both smoking and smokeless tobacco. The presentation began with a video about a baseball coach who nearly lost his bottom jaw to cancer caused by smokeless tobacco.

“Just seeing the way the guy in the video looked makes me never want to touch a can of dip again,” said Lance Cpl. Alan P. Cartier, Marine Wing Support Squadron 373 heavy equipment operator.

A Power Point presentation offered statistics that seemed to get the audience’s attention. According to health promotions, tobacco kills 400,000 people each year. Tobacco is the number one killer in the United States according to those statistics. The rate is higher than all other causes of death including alcohol, cocaine, crack, homicide or suicide.

After educating Marines using trivia questions about the statistics and health problems associated with tobacco use, the brief turned over the coin to show how MCCS and the Branch Medical Clinic can help tobacco users “kick the habit.”

Petty Officer 2nd Class Arturo Alvarado Jr., Health Promotions

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# Tour lets newcomers get acquainted with new home

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Permanent Change of Station is quite an adjustment for most service members, even more so for a Marine or Sailor with a family — unfamiliar with the Air Station, and certainly unfamiliar with the surrounding area.

The San Diego Armed Services YMCA offers the “Out & About Tour” for all active-duty service members and their families as a way to show newcomers around the Air Station.

Participants also get to visit some of the many places of interest in the San Diego area.

Beginning at Miramar, the tour passes the stadium and continues to Coronado where passengers step off the bus for a 20 to 30 minute chance to take in the sights.

Once everyone is back on the shuttle, they head over to Balboa Park where they see the various museums and activities that take place there.

The bus then takes the tour through downtown San Diego, up Harbor Drive, to the San Diego International Airport, along Mission Beach and Pacific Beach, to La Jolla and La Jolla Cove, stopping at University Town Center, where they all have lunch and explore the mall. After the mall exploration, the tour returns home to Miramar.

According to Cindy Farless, ASYMCA representative, the tour has been going strong for four years.

The tour follows the Station’s Welcome Aboard brief. Every first and third Wednesday of each month Welcome Aboard briefs are conducted with the tour

See **Tours**, page 10



## Proud to be military

Two Timorese children pose with Marine Corps and Navy covers and chevrons received from Marines and Sailors at the 10 December School, Dili, East Timor, as part of the USS Essex and 31st MEU's Humanitarian Assistance Operation on Nov. 9. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kenji Szczepanski

Ad Space

# Station, Wing celebrate Corps' birthday



Private First Class Jennifer Parisi, youngest Marine, eats a piece of Marine birthday cake as Sgt. Kelly Richmond, oldest Marine, and Maj. Gen. Charles F. Bolden Jr., 3rd MAW commanding general, watch during the Enlisted Ball downtown Nov. 11. *Photo by Pfc. Aaron D. Williamson*



Leading from the front is Lt. Col. Rodney H. Taplin, commanding officer, (left) and Sgt. Maj. Neil W. O'Connell Jr., (right), MWCS-38. Nov. 8, Marines in teams of two ran three miles each. The squadron ran the final four miles together for a total of 226 miles to celebrate the Marine Corps' 226th birthday. *Photo by Cpl. C.A. Eriksen*

Ad Space



Major General William G. Bowdon, commander, MCABWA, holds a piece of cake recently cut from a Marine birthday cake. He then passed the cake to the oldest and youngest Marines present. *Photo by Cpl. Mark P. Ledesma*



Sergeant Shawn Henderson reads the birthday message from Gen. John A. Lejeune, 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps. Traditionally, this message is read every year at Marine Corps Balls around the world. *Photo by Pfc. Aaron D. Williamson*



Sergeant Major Donald R. Franklin, 3rd MAW sergeant major, cuts a piece from a Marine birthday cake during a sergeants-and-below ball downtown Nov 11. The piece of cake was passed to the oldest and youngest Marine. *Photo by Pfc. Aaron D. Williamson*



Staff Sergeant Edward Hayes, enlisted band leader, leads Marines from the 3rd MAW Band in the Marines' Hymn during the sergeants-and-below Marine Corps Birthday Ball at a local five-star hotel downtown Nov. 11. The Marine Corps' was founded Nov. 10, 1775. *Photo by Pfc. Aaron D. Williamson*

Ad Space

# Miramar celebrates Native American Heritage Day

## November

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford declared the week of Oct. 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week. Nineteen years later, the Senate and House of Representatives changed the annual week to a month long observance with appropriate ceremonies and activities. The current National Native American Heritage Month is November.

The Marine Corps celebrates the contributions and history of Native Americans with special observances throughout the monthly.

While history is often found on the library shelves, but it is made everyday in the barracks, chowhalls, classrooms, offices and organizations across the Marine Corps.



### Sgt. Edward C. Bullcalf Jr.

**Job title and unit:** Legal Assistance noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron

**Hometown and State:** Browning, Mont.

**Date of Enlistment:** April 25, 1991

**Duties:** As the NCOIC, I am responsible for all of the Marines under me. This allows me to help my Marines and clients at the same time.

**What do you think the importance of recognition ceremonies and customs, such as Native American Heritage Month, are to the Marine Corps?**

“Where I grew up, it was mostly whites and Native Americans, so I didn’t have the privilege of experiencing other cultures. The Marine Corps’ diversity has built a strong force and it has also allowed me to grow as a person. The heritage months give everyone a chance to view other cultures and their history.”

### Cpl. Elaine Johnson

**Job title and unit:** Visiting Aircraft Line individual material readiness list manager

**Hometown:** Shonto, Ariz.

**Date of Enlistment:** August 24, 1998

**Duties:** “I assist in recovering visiting aircraft. I ensure the aircraft is fueled and serviced as well as keep account of all support equipment assets. If in need of equipment, I make the appropriate orders for such items.”

**What do you think the importance of recognition ceremonies and customs, such as Native American Heritage Month, are to the Marine Corps?**

“For me, it’s an enjoyable experience, because I am being recognized for being different. It also is a good time for me to acknowledge my ancestors and their service as legendary code talkers. It feels good to have pride about yourself and who you are.”



### Pfc. Robert J. Kaquatosh

**Job title and unit:** Motor transport operator, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron

**Hometown and State:** Neopit, Wis.

**Date of Enlistment:** June 16, 1999

**Duties:** “I average more than 100 miles a day driving a 45 passenger bus. I am responsible for transporting Marines to and from Camp Pendleton’s rifle range.”

**What do you think the importance of recognition ceremonies and customs, such as Native American Heritage Month, are to the Marine Corps?**

“I grew up on a reservation and the first time I ever truly interacted with other cultures was in boot camp. I think it’s cool how people in the Corps weren’t prejudice against me because of who I am. It’s like it didn’t even matter that we were different.”

Ad Space

# Gatekeepers lock game on Raiders 56-51

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

The Naval Consolidated Brig Gatekeepers slammed the door on the Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352 Raiders 56 to 51 in an Intramural Basketball game at the main gym Nov. 6. This was a high-energy contest, complete with a truckload of fouls, which made the game hard to watch. It was any teams game for the most part, the 10-0 Gatekeepers held the lead for the first quarter, and the 5-3 Raiders held it from the second quarter until the last few

minutes of the game, when the Gatekeepers rallied for the victory. A few errors in the final seconds of this battle by the Gatekeepers gave the Raiders some perfect opportunities to halt the fast coming Gatekeepers. The Raiders couldn't capitalize and the score remained. "We played awesome today, tried to cancel out the referees and just play hard," said Gatekeepers coach Ricky Rice. "Every game we usually start down. In this game we hung in there in the beginning and were able to take control of it in

See **Basketball**, page 10



J.J. Gold, VMGR-352 Raiders, tries to take it down court, but a Naval Consolidated Brig Gatekeepers Defender is on his tail during an Intramural Basketball game at the Main Gym Nov. 6. In the end, the Gatekeepers claimed a 56-51 victory. Photo by Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

## Agencies offer scholarships

Here is a list of available scholarships for military personnel and their families:

- 1) Ron Brown: [www.RonBrown.org](http://www.RonBrown.org)
- 2) Jackie Robinson Foundation:[www.JackieRobinson.org](http://www.JackieRobinson.org)
- 3) Project Excellence: [www.project-excellence.com](http://www.project-excellence.com)
- 4) United Negro College Fund: [www.uncf.org/programs](http://www.uncf.org/programs)
- 5) Kodak: [www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/programs/student/scholarship.shtml](http://www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/programs/student/scholarship.shtml)
- 6) Intel Science Talent Search: [www.sciserv.org/sts](http://www.sciserv.org/sts)
- 7) National Action Council For Minorities in Engineering: [www.nacme.org/sch\\_index.html](http://www.nacme.org/sch_index.html)
- 8) Gates Millennium: [www.gmsp.org/SOW4](http://www.gmsp.org/SOW4)
- 9) National Society of Black Engineers: [www.nsbe.org/scholarships](http://www.nsbe.org/scholarships)
- 10) ARMY ROTC —(for Historically Black Colleges): [www.usarotc.com/index.htm](http://www.usarotc.com/index.htm)
- 11) American Institute Of Certified Public Accountants: [www.aicpa.org/members/div/career/mini/smas.htm](http://www.aicpa.org/members/div/career/mini/smas.htm)
- 12) Developmental Fund for Black Students in Science and Technology: [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/dlhinson/dfb\\_sch.htm](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/dlhinson/dfb_sch.htm)
- 13) Coca-Cola Scholars: [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org)
- 14) Ambassadorial: [www.rotary.org/foundation/education/amb\\_scho](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/education/amb_scho)
- 15) Ronald McDonald House Charities and the United Negro College Fund: [www.mcdonalds.com/countries/usa/community/education/scholarships/index.html](http://www.mcdonalds.com/countries/usa/community/education/scholarships/index.html)
- 16) Xerox Technology Minority Scholarship: [www.xerox.com](http://www.xerox.com) and type in "Scholarship" in the search engine.
- 17) Alpha Kappa Alpha: [www.akaeaf.org/scholarshipprogram.html](http://www.akaeaf.org/scholarshipprogram.html)
- 18) National Collegiate Athletic Association: [www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html](http://www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html)
- 19) National Alliance for Excellence: [www.excellence.org/programs.html](http://www.excellence.org/programs.html)
- 20) Harry S. Truman Scholarship: [www.truman.gov](http://www.truman.gov)
- 21) National Association of Hispanic Journalist: [www.nahj.org/student.html](http://www.nahj.org/student.html)
- 22) National Association of Black Journalists: [www.nabj.org/html\\_studentsvcs.html](http://www.nabj.org/html_studentsvcs.html)
- 23) Hispanic College Fund Scholarships: <http://hispanicfund.org/hcf-scholar.html>
- 24) Arts Recognition And Talent Search Awards: [www.artsawards.org](http://www.artsawards.org)
- 25) Society of Women Engineer: [www.swe.org/SWE/StudentServices/Scholarship/brochure.htm](http://www.swe.org/SWE/StudentServices/Scholarship/brochure.htm)
- 26) American Institute of Architects Minority Disadvantaged: [www.e-rchitect.com/institute/scholar.htm](http://www.e-rchitect.com/institute/scholar.htm)

Ad Space

## Welcome Aboard Brief date changes

The November Welcome Aboard Briefing will be held Nov. 28 at 7:30 a.m. in the Joint Reception Center Classroom. The Welcome Aboard Brief is held in conjunction with a YMCA tour of San Diego.

For more information about the brief and the tour, see story on page five of this week's Flight Jacket or for more information, call 577-1783.

## MAG-16 holds safety fair

Marine Aircraft Group 16 is holding its first-ever safety fair Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Hangar 6. The event will feature a variety of booths geared toward different types of safety. Food and refreshments will be sold and squadron store memorabilia is available for purchase.

MAG-16 is also seeking volunteers to assist with the booths. No experience is required.

For more information, call Lt. Col. Sanny or Capt. Gabriel at 577-4534 or 577-6845.

## Basketball, continued from page 9

the second half and just win it."

According to Raiders key player J.J. Gold, the Raiders played outstanding, in his opinion all the team needed to do is settle down a little and pass the ball around a bit more and they could have claimed victory.

## Meeting, continued from page 3

are important in three ways. First, she said, the meetings provide program information that would benefit an exceptional family. Secondly, it helps the committee determine goals and objectives. Lastly, it helps establish quality services for the families as well as the service providers.

Due to the upcoming holidays, the meetings will not resume until February, said Thomas. For more information on the advisory committee for persons with disabilities call personal services division at 577-4098.

For more information about the Special Care Center's services call 1-800-794-4076.

## Safety, continued from page 1

comes around, the trees are dried out."

Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water daily. You should never purchase a tree that is dry or dropping needles.

"You should only keep the tree in your home for two weeks," said Leary. "After the two weeks, the tree should be disposed of because it is drying out very quickly and the potential for fire is there."

When decorating Christmas trees, you should always use safe tree-lights. Some Christmas lights are designed only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Manufacturer's instructions on how to properly use tree lights should be strictly followed. Any string of lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used. Christmas lights should always be unplugged before leaving home or going to sleep.

A problem the Miramar Fire Prevention Bureau often runs into during the winter holidays is Christmas trees in the barracks. "Christmas trees are not allowed in the barracks," said Leary. "What tends to happen is the troops bring in the trees and end up going on leave. When that happens the trees are not taken care of and become very dry; making them a fire hazard."

Decorating with lit candles is another fire hazard. Between 1994 and 1998, there were 9,930 home fires per year caused by candles, with an annual average of 119 deaths, 1,043 injuries and \$144.5 million in property damage.

To prevent candle fires from occurring, keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees. Make sure all candles are extinguished when leaving a room or going to sleep. Keep candles up high out of reach of children. Never leave a child unattended in a room with a candle.

"Candles are also not allowed in the barracks and work spaces," said Leary.

Another leading cause of home fires during the holidays is unattended cooking. To avoid problems from occurring in the kitchen, remember to keep an eye on the range while cooking for holiday visitors.

"What tends to happen in the kitchen is

# Free movies from MCCS

<p><b>Today</b></p> <p><b>Lara Croft: Tomb Raider</b> (PG-13) 4:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hearts in Atlantis</b> (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hardball</b> (PG-13) 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b></p> <p><b>Shrek</b> (PG) 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Atlantis: The Lost Empire</b> (PG) 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p><b>Shrek Glitter</b> (PG) 1 p.m.</p> <p>(PG-13) 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>Zoolander</b> (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Hearts in Atlantis</b> (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.</p>
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The Station theater is equipped with a 35 mm projection system and Dolby Digital Surround Sound. All movies are free for DoD ID card holders and their guests. For movie synopses see the current theater flyer or call 577-4143.

people leave thinking 'I am only going to be away for a minute' and end up leaving longer, causing the food to catch fire," said Leary.

The holidays should be joyful and relaxing for everyone. With holiday celebrations just around the corner, it is important that fire safety and attention to minor details are not overlooked.

For more information on fire safety visit [www.dfp.org](http://www.dfp.org).

## Abuse, continued from page 4

Miller. New Marines have to be brought in to fill the gaps created by the Marine while they are awaiting trial.

"Marines have felt ostracized, that they have let down their command when they are removed from the unit," said Miller. "They see some of their buddies from their unit and their buddies won't talk to them anymore, or just avoid them all together."

The Joint Law Center tries to educate Marines on the consequences of getting involved with drugs. There is always a small percentage of Marines who either just do not care, or try to use this as way out of the Marine Corps, according to Miller.

"For those who are looking for an easy way out, if you do drugs you're going to be prosecuted, complete with a record of conviction and jail time before you get separated," said Miller.

The good news is that there has been a drop in the number of drug-related offenses. Aggressive education efforts and prosecu-

tion of drug offenders by the Joint Law Center, as well as by the individual commands, has helped to rid the base of the bad influences of drug use base, according to Miller.

There was a Marine who was charged and prosecuted for a drug offense after a year-long investigation, according to Miller. When this Marine was being separated he claimed to have not used drugs for more than a year.

"He said that when the other Marines he was hanging out with got caught and prosecuted so swiftly, he stopped doing drugs," said Miller. "He had hoped that he would not have to go through what they went through; it just took us that long to get to him on the list that was generated from the investigation."

For Marines involved with drugs or thinking about getting involved with drugs, there will be consequences. There will be jail time and a record of conviction to follow you into the future, according to Miller.

"There are other ways to enjoy your free time - clean and sober," said Miller. "Think about how proud you and your parents were when you graduated boot camp, then compare it to how devastated they will be when you're separated for a drug offense."

## Tours, continued from page 5

done on the following Thursday. Previously the "Out & About Tour" was a monthly event.

The program has proved time and again to be a helpful tool for service members who a new to Miramar.

"I would like to see more family members going on this tour," said Farless. "Spouses can benefit from it just as much, if not more."

For more information concerning the tour call the YMCA at (619) 232-9084.

## Smoke, continued from page 5

coordinator, spoke to the audience about the smoking cessation classes he teaches at Branch Medical Clinic.

The presentation also touched on the upcoming Great American Smokeout and smoking cessation hypnosis seminar.

"It was a real eye-opener, just seeing the pictures and hearing what tobacco use really does to you. It's amazing how people still smoke," said Sgt. Walt E. Dueck, MWSS-373 heavy equipment lot foreman. "I'm quitting."

For more information call 577-1331.

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CAX,  
continued from page 1

ing. The training is then incorporated into massive operations that revolve around the combined efforts of the Aviation Combat Element, Ground Combat Element, Combat Service Support Element and the Headquarters Element of the MAGTF.

For the offensive portion, aircraft flew terrain flights, where the aircraft navigate through mountainous areas of Twentynine Palms flying at altitudes less than 200 feet. The aircraft must fly close to the hills and mountains to simulate avoiding enemy observation, fire and radar – all of which add an element of surprise to the operation.

Meanwhile, other aviation assets such as the F/A-18 Hornets, UH-1N Hueys and AH-1W Super Cobras provided close air support and preparation fire support in conjunction with direct and indirect fire support from tanks, artillery, mortars and light-armored reconnaissance vehicles.

The following days are a continuation of the battle as the MAGTF shapes its fight for a final engagement with overwhelming fire support.

“Each CAX is built around one standard

exercise so there is little deviation in operations and all units, regardless of which CAX they participate in, get the same training,” said January.

Prior to a unit’s arrival to the exercise, they are sent materials containing all necessary operational information. This gives units time to focus on internal training in areas that may need more attention, such as troop inserts or night and terrain flights.

However, most of the training done at CAX is part of routine training, squadrons conduct throughout the year. The main difference is getting to interact with a variety of aircraft, ground combat, and support units at the same time.

Planning for the FINEX takes nearly two weeks because of the major coordination to integrate so many different aircraft and Marines. Even once the training is finalized, representatives from the MAGTF Headquarters Element, GCE, ACE and the CSSE meet the evening prior to discuss the next day’s operations.

“FINEX is so important to everyone because of its size and duration as the culminating battle for the MAGTF. It utilizes every aspect of the MAGTF in support of the GCE. Many units will not see this type of exercise again unless in actual battle or an-

other CAX,” said January.

Veterans,  
continued from page 1

bers. It was designated Veterans Day in 1954.

“Sometimes I wonder, if not for these veterans, these Marines and Sailors during World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, where would this country be? Would there even be a United States. I really don’t think so,” Renolds said.

Box,  
continued from page 2

cause currently we have a big problem with the delivery of accountable mail,” said Woods.

“We give (mail clerks) a little form called a 3849 (a package pick-up slip), just a little piece of paper, and it usually never makes it to the individual. By the time the individual is informed of a package it is past the 15-day limit and has already been returned to U.S. Postal Service.”

“With the new system the number of people handling the mail is decreased leaving much less room for error,” he added.

# Flight Jacket

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*Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area*

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*Commanding General, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing*

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*Combat Correspondents*

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